

ParkWays

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 1

NEWSLETTER OF THE CININNATI PARKS

SPRING 2000

A Journey to the Pacific

This year, Krohn Conservatory will feature a Japanese springtime garden of flowers at the Cincinnati Parks' Spring Show, *The Cherry Blossom Festival*, March 9 through April 16. This spectacular event offers blooms in every shade of pink imaginable, including traditional flowering Cherry Trees, hundreds of Oriental Lilies and a variety of flowering shrubs and trees. These floral displays will be set against a backdrop of reflecting pools, a miniature Japanese-style teahouse and a wicker gazebo. Other blossoms include fragrant Stargazers, Lace Cap Hydrangeas, Pansies, Dusty Millers and Calla Lillies, also in shades of pink and white.



The Spring Show at Krohn will feature more than a dozen flowering Cherry Trees.

Visitors are welcome to view hundreds of beautiful, award-worthy orchids at the Cincinnati Orchid Society's annual orchid competition. Held at Krohn on April 1 and 2, the competition invites Cincinnati Orchid Society members from all over the Tri-State to bring their prize orchids to be judged. After judging is complete, the orchids will be put on display for the enjoyment of Spring Show visitors.

For more information on the Spring Show or the orchid competition, call (513) 352-4080. ♦


Parks Foundation Initiates Membership Campaign Community invited to support public greenspace



The Cincinnati Parks Foundation is pleased to announce the launch of **Friends of Cincinnati Parks**, a membership program designed to increase

awareness and support for the Cincinnati Parks. In addition to raising funds for the park system, this new initiative will help disseminate information about programs in the parks and will provide a greater sense of "ownership" for its members. There are many of levels of membership, each with a benefits package ranging from **Friends of Cincinnati Parks** stickers and park maps, to special notification of upcoming Parks events, such as lectures and nature walks.

The first Cincinnati Park was created in 1817 with the donation of land downtown, now referred to as Platt Park. Since then, the Cincinnati Parks system has grown to include more than 150 parks and greenspaces, comprising approximately 5,000 acres of city property. Cincinnati Parks are



MEMBERSHIP LEVEL	Friend	Family	Student	Senior	Patron
Friend Window Sticker	•	•	•	•	•
Map of Cincinnati Parks	•	•	•	•	•
Membership Card	•	•	•	•	•
Inviting members to 10% discount at Krohn Gift Shop	•	•	•	•	•
Free Tickets to Butterfly Show	1	3	4	4	4
Parkways Subscription	•	•	•	•	•
Monthly Calendar of Events	•	•	•	•	•
Special Notification of Upcoming Park Events	•	•	•	•	•
Nature Program Brochures	•	•	•	•	•
Discount for Park Lecture Series (4 per year)	•	•	•	•	•
Free Guide to Art & Architecture in the Parks	•	•	•	•	•
Free Attendance: Park Lectures, Bus Tours & Nature Walks (4 per year)	•	•	•	•	•
Mention in the Cincinnati Parks Foundation Annual Report	•	•	•	•	•
Two Complimentary Tickets to Members Only Show Performances at Krohn (4 per year)	•	•	•	•	•

Above: Membership benefits of Friends of Cincinnati Parks.

among the most extensive and best regarded in the nation.

The success of Cincinnati Parks has always depended greatly on public involvement and private-sector donations. **Friends of Cincinnati Parks** has been established to carry on the legacy of this community involvement, giving citizens a new opportunity to contribute to and be a part of Cincinnati Parks.

"Friends of Cincinnati Parks will help foster a greater advocacy for our park system," said Ron Molen, Executive Director of Cincinnati Parks Foundation. "We are so appreciative of the support we have received over the years and we look forward to generating even more excitement about the incredible natural and cultural resources city parks offer."

The funds raised through the membership program will supplement the support received through the city budget, grants and private contributions.

If you are interested in becoming a member of **Friends of Cincinnati Parks**, please call the Cincinnati Parks Foundation at (513) 357-2619 or log onto our Web site at www.cinci-parks.org. ♦



If you think you
have given
enough, think
again. There is
always more to
give and someone
to give it.

— Norman
Vincent Peale

Victorian Romance Fills the Parks The fifth annual Butterfly Show returns to Krohn

As the world focuses on the new millennium, the Cincinnati Parks invites you to flutter back in time with its Victorian-themed *Butterfly Show*. Swallowtails, Painted Ladies and other delicate-winged creatures will join you in your time-travel voyage through Krohn Conservatory's lush gardens. Victorian touches include floral carpet-bedding techniques and a gazebo filled with tropical butterflies.

"Butterflies have a delicate and classical beauty reminiscent of a time long past. These creatures have remained virtually unchanged for thousands of years," said Andrea Schepmann, Show Program Manager. "The turning point of the new millennium not only encourages us to look forward to new possibilities, but to reflect on the simplicities of life."

The *Butterfly Show* will bring winged wonders from near and far, including 32 varieties of North American butterfly species, such as the popular Monarch and fiery orange Queen. Exotic visitors include Costa Rican varieties, such as the vibrant Blue Morphos, Postman and Starry Night.

Regardless of the level of butterfly expertise, enthusiasts of all ages will delight in the Show as interactive elements provide a variety of learning opportunities. "We're very excited about this year's *Butterfly Show*," said Ruth Ann Spears, Manager of Krohn Conservatory. "This is an event that we've prepared for all winter, and it's definitely something the entire family will enjoy."



Visitors will learn how to create their own butterfly gardens at home, and the ever-popular weekend children's craft area encourages younger guests to explore the natural world through hands-on activities. School groups also are welcome to participate in programmed educational opportunities.

The *Butterfly Show* is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily from May 12 through June 18. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ages five to 17, free for children four and under and \$4 for seniors. The rate for school groups is \$2 per child. The Show will be free for mothers on Mother's Day and fathers on Father's Day. For more information, call Krohn Conservatory at (513) 352-4080. ♦

Parks to Assess City's Urban Forest Tree Canopy



An aerial view of Over-The-Rhine shows a portion of the city's tree canopy.

The Cincinnati Park Board's Natural Resource Management Section (NRMS) is responsible for planting and managing all city-owned trees located within Cincinnati's neighborhoods, on roads and in parks. In fact, over the last 18 years, Cincinnati Parks has planted more than 40,000 street trees, 30,000 highway trees and several thousand park trees.

Recently, the NRMS embarked on a project that is the first of its kind in the country. The project will record every tree in Cincinnati, analyzing the contributions the trees provide to neighborhoods through pollution

removal, cooling and reducing storm water runoff. The project also will plot each tree, adding them to the city's computerized geographic information system (GIS). With this valuable information, city planners will be able to plan street improvements around trees, just as they plan around fire hydrants and utility poles.

The project is unique because low level aerial photography was used to photograph the city's urban forest. This type of photography produces an image which is much more accurate than the common practice of using satellite imagery.

Every tree reduces storm water, stores carbon, and removes airborne pollutants through its physical and biological processes. In fact, the economic value of these environmental contributions can be calculated, demonstrating the dollars saved simply by planting and maintaining trees. American Forests, a nonprofit conservation organization has developed software which can measure and quantify the contributions these trees make within individual neighborhoods and collectively throughout Cincinnati. Once each of the city's 52 neighborhoods has been analyzed, the Park Board will use the data to determine where additional trees are needed and to project their potential economic and environmental contribution to the city.

If you would like more information on city trees, or would like to become involved in the urban forestry program in your community, please call the NRMS at (513) 861-9070. ♦

Volunteers to Clean the City Green

Take action in your own neighborhood park! The Cincinnati Parks invites you to participate in its 16th annual GreenUp Day on May 20. Join other volunteers as they roll up their sleeves to work on a variety of general maintenance projects designated for area parks, from mulching gardens to maintaining trails. The day's activities start at 9 a.m. and end around 1 p.m. Call Cindi Nugent, Parks Volunteer Program Coordinator, at (513) 321-6208 to sign up or for more information. ♦



Volunteers lend a hand during GreenUp Day 1999.

POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS

Private/Public Partnership Benefits All

A 19-acre undeveloped area along Victory Parkway in North Avondale, owned by the Park Board, will become a recreational resource for both local residents and Xavier University students.

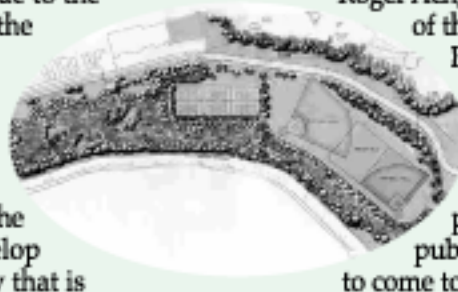
With the displacement of the university's tennis courts and ball fields due to the building of the new Cintas Center, XU officials approached the Park Board with the idea to develop the property that is located north of and adjacent to the campus.

With input from the North Avondale Neighborhood Association (NANA), the Park Board and XU established a lease agreement that outlines a \$1.5 million improvement and

maintenance project funded by the university. By the fall of 2000, the park will feature play fields, tennis courts, a wooded ecology trail and a bike/exercise path.

"This is a model partnership that will be used as a template in cities all over the country," said Roger Ach, Vice President of the Cincinnati Park Board. "I see the park agreement as a very direct way for private and public institutions to come together to benefit everyone."

A schedule outlining the use of the park by Xavier tennis and intramural teams and the availability of the park to the public will be agreed upon by the university, the Park Board and NANA. ♦



Above: Illustration of Xavier University/Park Board park project

Nature Library Comes to Burnet Woods



The proposed renovation to Trailside Nature Center, including the addition of the new nature library located on the right side of the graphic.

The Cincinnati Parks Master Plan, developed in 1992, identified the need to evaluate the programs offered at Trailside Nature Center in Burnet Woods and to create enhancements to the building and its surroundings. In the years following, the Park Board worked with technical and community advisors and partners, such as the University of Cincinnati Institute for Community Partnerships, to explore the issues of programming and physical improvements as well as nature education, urban ecology, and further partnering opportunities with local entities.

The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County and the Park Board recently approved a project for Trailside that breaks new ground for nature education in the United States. With funding provided by the Public Library, a new addition will be added to Trailside to house a special nature collection featuring nature-related books and field guides. The new wing also will be equipped with computer stations enabling visitors

to search the Internet for nature-related topics. An outdoor reading garden, adjacent to the new wing, will be sited alongside Burnet Woods Lake.

"This is a great new partnership," said Steve Schuckman, Acting Director of Cincinnati Parks. "We will be able to restore the historic nature center and create a unique library collection focused on nature."

In addition to the new nature library at Trailside, the current 60-year-old building will undergo restoration to return much of the structure's original character. This restoration will re-open views to and from the park into the building. This renovation will be funded by the Park Board. The result will be more efficient classrooms and an enhanced exhibit area. The library wing, to be built on former roadway space, will be operated by the Public Library.

Construction is slated to begin in 2001. ♦

HISTORY IN THE PARKS



The Cincinnati Park Board has offered year-round nature education programs for environmental enthusiasts of all ages for more than 70 years. During week-long daycamps or simple hour-long sessions, Parks naturalists lead activities that address issues such as animal hibernation, the wonders of water and seasonal foliage. Participants are invited to take hikes, sit by campfires, make crafts and even canoe. Pictured here in the 1950s, a group of children spend the afternoon learning about nature at Burnet Woods' Trailside Nature Center.



The joy of giving
is as often
overlooked as the
giving of joy.

— David Barton

POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS

A Model Neighborhood Park Project

Inspired by the completion of an East Price Hill community improvement study conducted by University of Cincinnati students, a group of local residents led by Teresa Coate formed the Purcell Block Club. Following the recommendations of the study, the Purcell Block Club has made it their mission to tackle the improvements outlined for Glenway Park.

A city park located on Glenway Avenue between Considine and Purcell streets, Glenway Park is affectionately referred to by some as "Tank Park" because it once served as the site of a Water Works water storage facility.

With an \$8,000 grant received through the Community Capacity Building Fund sponsored by the United Way and the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, the Purcell Block Club and the Cincinnati Parks Foundation are poised to raise additional funds. The grant will go toward the purchase and installment of new playground equipment, including a new swingset and multi-use play structure. Additional planned improvements include a walking trail, picnic tables and benches, grills and a new drinking fountain. New landscaping elements, such as trees and perennial plants, also will be planted.

"We take pride in the Price Hill community and the support given by its residents," said Merrill Rounds, a member of the Purcell Block Club. "Partnering with the Park Board is a great way to ensure that the quality of life exceeds our expectations."

The first phase of the Glenway Park improvements is underway with initial matching funds from the Park Board. The project will be completed as additional funds are received. For information on how you can help, call the Parks Foundation at (513) 357-2619. ♦

NATURE NOTES

Catch the Wildflower Wave!

With acres of nature's most spectacular floral displays, Cincinnati Parks offer Tri-State residents the chance to see hundreds of colorful, fragrant blooms that herald the warm weather. Bloodroot, Dutchman's Breeches, Trilliums, Wood Poppies, Waterleaf, and Wild Geranium are just a few of the wildflower species scheduled to arrive in the wooded areas and hillsides of the parks during the months of March, April and May.

Recommended viewing areas include the wooded grounds of: Ault Park, Avon Woods, Brodbeck

Preserve, Burnet Woods, Buttercup Valley, Caldwell Nature Center, California Woods, French Park, LaBoiteaux Woods, Mt. Airy Forest and Stanbery Park. And, don't overlook the beauty blooming in many of the smaller wooded parks. Rapid Run Park offers wonderful Trout Lilies and large drifts of mixed Spring Beauty and Toothwort.

Guided tours of the wildflower displays also are on the Cincinnati Park Board nature activity calendar throughout these months. For more information, call (513) 321-6070. ♦



Above: Named for its distinctive shape, Dutchman's Breeches is one of the hundreds of wildflower varieties found in the parks this spring.

EXPLORE THE PARKS

Cincinnati: A River Town

Once used as the vehicle for commerce in the Queen City, the 40-to-50-thousand-year-old Ohio River continues to serve as a mode of freight transportation as well as a tranquil, yet impressive piece of the Cincinnati landscape. The majestic body of water also plays a large part in the recreational activity of Tri-State residents, whether as the source for summertime fun in a pleasure craft or as the site of the city's popular Riverfest celebration.

This spring, as the weather warms, the Cincinnati Park Board invites you to take in the beauty of the Ohio River from one of the many Parks overlooks. Pack a picnic and enjoy a lazy afternoon against the backdrop of the sweeping river valley. Visit Eden Park's Twin Lakes, which features a view of the Ohio River and the Kentucky hills, or Mt. Echo Park, which provides a view of downtown and the "S" bend of the Ohio River. Alms Park provides views of both the Ohio and Little Miami rivers.



Mt. Echo Park provides visitors with a panoramic view of the Ohio River and the downtown skyline.

If you would like more information about or directions to the Ohio River overlooks found throughout the Cincinnati Parks system, please call (513) 352-4080. ♦

PROGRAMS IN THE PARKS

Parks Spring Activities

Nature Programs

Maple in Mt. Airy
Mt. Airy Forest
March 4, 9 - 11:15 a.m.
Information, call 321-6070

Planetarium Programs
Trailside Nature Center
Information, call 751-3679

Japanese Fish Kite Kraft
Krohn Conservatory
March 11, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Information, call 421-5707 ext. 17

Pancakes in the Woods
California Woods
March 12, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Information, call 231-8678

Exploring the Millennium
Alms Park
March 18, 3 - 4 p.m.
Information, call 751-3679

Night Hike
Mt. Echo Park
March 24, 7 - 8 p.m.
Information, call 861-3435

Woodcock Watch
Magrith Riverlands Preserve
April 1, 6:30 - 8 p.m.
Information, call 861-3435

Wildflower Hike
LaBoiteaux Woods
April 15, 1 - 2 p.m.
Information, call 231-8678

Buzzin' Blossoms
California Woods
April 16, 1 - 3 p.m.
Information, call 231-8678

Presidential Grove Tours
Krohn Conservatory
April 29, 1 & 3 p.m.
Information, call 421-5707 ext. 17

Wildflower/Spring Walk
Rawson Woods Bird Preserve
April 30, 1 - 2:30 p.m.
Information, call 321-6070 ext. 14

Blooms and Brunch
Avon Woods
May 6, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Information, call 861-3435

Bird Migration Day
Trailside Nature Center
May 7
Information, call 321-6070 ext. 14

Medicinal Plants
Mt. Airy Arboretum
May 13, 1 - 2:30 p.m.
Information, call 542-2909

Ordovician Fishin' for Fossils
Caldwell Nature Center
May 20, 2 - 3:30 p.m.
Information, call 761-4313

Millennium Walk
Fairview Park
May 21, 1 - 2 p.m.
Information, call 751-3679

Krohn Exhibits

Spring Show
March 9 - April 16

Easter Lily Display
April 21-30

Butterfly Show
May 12 - June 18

Other

Flower Show
Ault Park
May 3-7
Information, call 872-9555

GreenUp Day
Various Parks
May 20
Information, call 321-6208



There is no labor

a man can do

that's undignified

— if he does

it right.

— Bill Cosby

MESSAGE FROM THE PARK BOARD

Dear ParkWays Readers:

"Partnership" is defined by the *Oxford English Dictionary* as "the fact or condition of being a partner; association or participation; an association of two or more persons (bodies) in which they share the expenses, profits or loss."

In the case of the Cincinnati Park Board, we feel that our numerous partnerships have resulted in significant "profits," although not necessarily referring to the monetary variety. Three of our most recent such ventures involve Glenway Park, Xavier University and Trailside Nature Center in Burnet Woods.

The Glenway Park project is rooted in the recommendation made by the Parks Foundation and its "Neighborhood Parks Committee" and has taken shape with the help of the Community Capacity Building Fund and the Purcell Block Club comprised of local residents.

The Xavier University project involves 19 acres of Park Board property that will be developed by the university, under Park Board supervision, for the recreational use of both students and residents of North Avondale.

The Trailside Library project is being made possible through a

partnership with the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, promising to provide a unique facility dedicated to environmental study.

Read about these three ventures in this issue of ParkWays, and realize that none of them would have been possible without partners representing government, institutions and supportive individuals.

Sincerely,

Marian J. Lindberg

President
Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners

*Conversation is
a state of
harmony between
man and land.
— Aldo Leopold*

Flower Show Returns

Join the Cincinnati Parks at Ault Park for the 2000 *Flower Show: Reflections and Projections*, sponsored by Provident Bank and the Cincinnati Horticultural Society. The host of the *Flower Show*, the Cincinnati Park Board will feature it's own display, which will walk visitors through the past and future of Cincinnati Parks.

The Show is open May 3 through May 6 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and May 7 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission for adults is \$11. For more information about the Flower Show, call the Cincinnati Horticultural Society at (513) 872-9555. ♦



Thousands of floral enthusiasts from all over the country travel to Ault Park for the annual Flower Show.

Foundation Selects New Officers

The Cincinnati Parks Foundation is pleased to announce the appointments of its 2000 Board of Trustees.

Lee Ault Carter, a member of the Parks Foundation since 1997, has been elected to serve as President of the Board. Carter and his family have been committed supporters of Cincinnati Parks for many years. His great-grandfather, Levi Addison Ault, served as a Cincinnati Parks Commissioner from 1908 to 1926. Levi Ault and his wife, Ida May, also donated the initial tract of land that is now

known as Ault Park. Carter has continued in his great-grandparents' footsteps, by dedicating himself to leading the enhancement projects of Ault Park.



Lee Ault Carter

Additional elected officers include Bruce I. Petrie, Jr., Vice President; Marian Barrett Leibold, Secretary; and W. Bernard Kyles, Treasurer.

New Trustees joining the Foundation Board are Susan Hickenlooper, Augustine A. Long; Edgar L. Smith, Jr.; Miriam E. West and Alex C. Young. ♦

Easter Lily Display

Join families all over the Tri-State who make the Cincinnati Parks' Easter Lily Display at Krohn Conservatory, April 21 through April 30, an annual holiday tradition. This year, hundreds of traditional Easter lilies will transform the Krohn Showroom into a breathtaking display known as one of the Cincinnati Parks' most popular events. Krohn Conservatory is open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Extended hours on



Traditional Easter lilies return to Krohn to welcome spring.

Easter Sunday, April 23 are from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, call (513) 352-4080. ♦

General Information:

Cincinnati Park Board

950 Eden Park Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
(513) 352-4080 (TTY)/ Fax: 352-4096
www.cinci-parks.org

Cincinnati Parks Foundation

950 Eden Park Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
357-2619 (TTY)/ Fax: 352-4096

Volunteering:

Cincinnati Parks Volunteers: 321-6208

**Day Camps /
Classes with Park Naturalists:**
321-6070

Krohn Conservatory:

352-4080

Reservations:

Picnic areas, shelters and bandstands:
352-4080

Alms, Ault and Mt. Echo pavilions;
French House; Mt. Airy lodges;
Krohn Conservatory; and wedding
areas: 351-4777

Special Use Permits:

352-4080

Information/Parks Visitor Center:

352-4080

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NEWSLETTER OF THE CINCINNATI PARKS

Cincinnati Park Board • Cincinnati Parks Foundation
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*Philanthropy lies
at the heart of
human greatness.*

— J. Patrick Ryan

